

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of detecting a telecine pattern embedded within a first sequence of video frames, the method comprising:

receiving at least a portion of the frames from the first sequence of video frames;

measuring a plurality of differences between frames and their adjacent frames in the sequence and storing the measured differences;

associating the measured differences into a plurality of data groups according to predicted telecine patterns; and

performing a statistical analysis of the plurality of data groups.

2. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the measurement of the differences between frames includes comparing every fourth pixel of a first frame to every fourth pixel of a second frame.

3. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the measurement of the differences between frames includes computing a summation of an absolute sum of differences between pixels.

4. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the measurement of the differences between frames includes computing a summation of the square of the differences between pixels.

5. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the measurement of the differences between frames is further normalized according to a number of pixels per frame that are compared.

6. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the measurement of the differences between frames is further saturated to a predetermined level.

7. The method as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:

maintaining the stored differences in a collection;

shifting the stored differences in the collection in response to a new measurement of differences between frames; and

adding the new measurement of differences to the collection.

8. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the statistical analysis includes a computation of a mean.

9. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the statistical analysis includes a computation of a variance.

10. The method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the statistical analysis includes a computation of a standard deviation.

11. The method as defined in Claim 1, further comprising varying a sample size of the measured differences analyzed in the plurality of data groups in response to a failure to detect the telecine pattern in a larger portion.

12. The method as defined in Claim 1, further comprising varying a threshold used for detection of the telecine pattern at least in part based on a selected sample size.

13. A system that detects a telecine pattern embedded within a first sequence of video frames, the system comprising:

a server adapted to receive at least a portion of the frames from the first sequence of video frames;

means for measuring a plurality of differences between frames and their adjacent frames in the sequence and storing the measured differences;

means for associating the measured differences into a plurality of data groups according to predicted telecine patterns; and

means for performing a statistical analysis of the plurality of data groups.

14. The system as defined in Claim 13, wherein the means for measuring a plurality of differences between frames includes means for comparing every fourth pixel of a first frame to every fourth pixel of a second frame.

15. The system as defined in Claim 13, wherein the measurement of the differences between frames includes means for computing a summation of an absolute sum of differences between pixels.

16. The system as defined in Claim 13, wherein the statistical analysis includes a computation of a variance.

17. A computer-readable medium comprising:

a module with instructions configured to receive at least a portion of the frames from the first sequence of video frames;

a module with instructions configured to measure a plurality of differences between frames and their adjacent frames in the sequence and storing the measured differences;

a module with instructions configured to associate the measured differences into a plurality of data groups according to predicted telecine patterns; and

a module with instructions configured to perform a statistical analysis of the plurality of data groups.

18. The computer-readable medium as defined in Claim 17, wherein the module with instructions configured to measure the plurality of differences between frames includes instructions for computing a summation of an absolute sum of differences between pixels.

19. The computer-readable medium as defined in Claim 17, wherein the statistical analysis includes a computation of a variance.

20. The computer-readable medium as defined in Claim 17, wherein the statistical analysis includes a computation of a standard deviation.